

Appln. No. 09/649,121
Amendment dated Oct. 21, 2004
Reply to Examiner's Telephone Interview Oct. 21, 2004
Docket No. 6169-170

IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0037

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are made in response to the Examiner's telephone interview of October 21, 2004 (Telephonic Interview). No fee is believed due, however the Examiner is authorized to charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for her thorough review of the Applicant's response of September 4, 2004 and ask that the Examiner call the Applicants with any additional requirements so that the Application can be placed into a condition for allowance.

During the telephone interview, Examiner Bayard indicated that claim 1 would be allowable if the Applicants incorporated the limitations of dependant claim 2 into independent claim 1. Further, the Examiner indicated that the remaining claims would be allowable if the independent claims were adjusted in a like fashion, which Applicants have agreed upon.

Consequently, Applicants have amended in accordance with the Examiner's requested amendments during the telephone interview of October 21, 2004, claims 1, 10, 16, 24, 33, and 39 as discussed. Further, Applicants have concurrently canceled claims 2, 17, 25, and 40, which were previously dependent claims and are now incorporated into their respective independent claims. Hence, claims 1, 5-16, 20-24, 28-29, and 43-47 are presently pending in the current application, which is consistent with the remainder of the Office Action. No new matter has been added by virtue of the amendments made herein.

Applicants believe that this application is now in full condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any matter within this Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gregory A. Nelson, Registration No. 30,577
Richard A. Hinson, Registration No. 47,652
Brian K. Buchheit, Registration No. 52,667
AKERMAN SENTERFITT
Post Office Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000